

[Mrs. Sam (Tina) Bridenbaugh]

Personal narrative (Dakota city) [?] - 241 - DAK DUP

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E 18 So Sioux

DATE October 27, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 15

1. Name and address of informant Mrs. Sam (Tina) Bridenbaugh Dakota City (Rural)
2. Date and time of interview October 27, 1938, 4 P M
3. Place of interview At Mrs. Bridenbaugh's home.
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant No one
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you No one
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. Bridenbaugh live in a very large, square, white house about one mile south of the Twin Churches on old Highway 20, just three miles north of Homer. Everything is painted up, the out buildings, barn and house, and kept in nice repair; it is a very attractive and outstanding looking farm home. C15 - 2/27/41 - Nebraska

FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E 18 South Sioux

DATE Octoner 27, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 15

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NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. Sam (Tina) Bridenbaugh Dakota City
(Rural)

1. Ancestry Mrs. Bridenbaugh's father's name was Willian N. Owens; they came originally from Wisconsin.
2. Place and date of birth; born in Leeds, a suburb of Sioux City, in 1877
3. Family consists to two girls and two boys
4. Place lived in, with dates Lived in Woodbury County, Iowa from 1877 to about 1884, and in Dakota County, Nebraska from 1864 until present time.
5. Education, with dates Graduated from [Felix?], Iowa, High school, took advanced work in Sioux City
6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Taught school for several years, later marrying and keeping house
7. Special skills and interests Mrs. Bridenbaugh is quite active in club work, and is very much interested in her home and family, who are all married.
8. Community and religious activities Mrs. Bridenbaugh is a church member and has been quite active in her church work and club work
9. Description of informant Informant is a medium large woman, with very heavy gray hair, a pleasing personality and anxious to cooperate in any way possible.
- 10 Other points gained in interview —

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

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NAME OF WORKER Edna B Pearson ADDRESS 108 E 18th So Sioux

DATE October 27, 1938 SUBJECT Interview No. 15

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. Sam (Tina) Bridenbaugh Dakota City
(Rural)

My father died when I was five years old, and when I was seven my mother and her family of seven children came to Dakota County from

Woodbury County, Iowa, with a brother of hers, and settled on a farm in Dakota County. This brother lived with my mother and farmed.

Everything was prairie east of the Meridian road; all was open prairie which was used for cattle feeding. I remember I used to heard cattle when I was quite young; I was the youngest girl: had a brother younger than myself.

I can see a vast difference in the method of agriculture and in the home and home life from what it was when I was a young girl, as I think back over the space of all these years. I remember when father died we never had lamps; had tallow candles. My earliest memory was of holding the moulds while mother poured the tallow in them; that was in Iowa. After we came to Dakota County we used kerosene lamps.

My mother lived on that farm two years and then bought a farm four miles north of Homer and erected a log house where we lived until I was about eleven or twelve years old. Then I went to live with a married sister at Salix, Iowa, where I stayed until I finished school, and took some advance work in Sioux City. I took the examinations in Woodbury County and taught school in Plymouth County, Iowa.

The teachers didn't get off as easy those days as they do now. We had to attend institute for two weeks each year, at which time we attended a regular school, had classes and

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good lecturers, excellent speakers and splendid instructors. At the end of the two weeks we had to take a very rigid examination and if we didn't pass that examination we got no certificate, and got no school. I remember once when I taught in Dakota County I was taking care of a lady friend who was very ill, and couldn't get away to attend institute in Dakota City. The County Superintendent told that would be all right if I would attend in some other county. I consequently had to go to the expense of attending in Dixou County

The Man on the Flying Trapeze was a favorite song when I was a young girl; we also sang Nellie Gray, Blue Junietta, etc. I remember one autograph which made a lasting impression on my mind. It was this: "When brought face to face with a difficulty, never let it stare you out of countenance."

Mrs. Dr. Charles [W?]. Maxwell, then Margaret Ashford, was one of my teachers. I went to school to her in the old Baird School, the first school house in Dakota County. She also taught the Meridian School. I went to school with Maggie Murphy in the old Baird School. In going to school we often walked right over the fences and fence posts on the snow. We most always had hard winters but never had the cyclonic conditions i the summer that we do now. We always had nice school programs and nice dialogues, and I always liked to take part in them.

The Indians never really bothered us, but we were always scared to death of them. They used to come past our place in droves, on their way to visit other tribes. It certainly used to be hair-raising to see them painted up. They would walk, using the ponies to haul their supplies.

My parents kept one of the first hotels in Sioux City, the old Sioux City House, which I believe was on Fifth and Pearl.

When we first came to Dakota County my uncle, George Murdick, burned charcoal and sold it in Sioux city as there was a good market for it there. He used to cut down the trees, saw them in certain lengths; make a bed, or trough, put the lengths of trees in the troughs

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and start them to burning; then he would cover them and let them burn for a ceratin length of time, or until the fire burned itself out, open up the beds or troughs and the charcoal was ready for market. He would sell it all winter.